

INVASIVE SPECIES SCIENCE TEAM MEETING
USGS Fort Collins Science Center
June 7-9, 2005
Logistics and Recreational Activities

Hello Attendees,

The information below describes two important items: food and field trips. Please take a look, and do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I do need you to send me (catherine_crosier@usgs.gov) an email as soon as possible to tell me:

1. Any special dietary needs you have (e.g., vegetarian, allergies, etc.).
2. What day(s) you will be attending the meeting (Tues. and/or Wed.).
3. Will you join the field trip on Thurs, see details below.
4. If you will attend the informal dinner at Tres Margaritas on Tues.
5. If you will attend the beer & brats dinner at the Stohlgren's on Thurs.

Nourishment

BRING YOUR FAVORITE TRAVEL MUG!

We will have food delivered to the meeting on Tuesday and Wednesday, and we will have box lunches and snacks for Thursday's field trip. Tuesday and Wednesday we will have baked goods, coffee, and juices in the morning and afternoon. For lunches we will have a variety of deli sandwiches and soft drinks (lemonade and iced tea). There are also some vending machines located in the Fort Collins Science Center where we will be meeting.

On Tuesday evening all are welcome to join an informal dinner at "Tres (3) Margaritas" – a local Mexican restaurant. You will be responsible for your own tab.

On Thursday evening the Stohlgren family (Tom, Cindy, Connor, Shannon, Michael, and Rocky and Boris - the cats) has invited us to their home in Windsor for beer and brats after the field trip.

For the Tuesday and Thursday evening activities we will have maps available at the meeting. Please visit the meeting web page for area maps and information on Ft. Collins - http://invasivespecies.gsfc.nasa.gov/news_jun05_meeting.html.

Thursday Field Trip

This will consist of a combination driving/hiking tour of Trail Ridge road in Rocky Mountain National park, with stops along the way to examine changes in vegetation (elevational gradients) and different invasive species. There are noticeable changes in the dominant vegetation and species that are found as you move up in elevation in the Rocky Mountains. These are some of the factors that can be important in modeling the distributions of species. The stops along the way will include some walking, but no more than half a mile. If it is not too windy or cold, we can stop for lunch up

in the tundra which has very unique vegetation and excellent views. People will be able to wander around more as they wish, depending on time. Midway through the tour, we will stop at the Alpine Visitor Center at the top of Trail Ridge road. For more information on this scenic drive, visit <http://www.nps.gov/romo/visit/weather/scenicdrives.html>. The cost for the field trip will be \$25, which covers the park entrance fee (\$5), van rental and a boxed lunch.

For the field trip, please be prepared for the variety that Colorado weather has to offer. We may experience hot, sunny conditions one moment and cold, hail or even snow another. We will be at elevations ranging from almost 6,000' to about 12,000' above sea level. At these elevations it is important to stay hydrated and to protect from exposure (sun, cold, wet, heat, etc.). Please bring/wear:

- personal safety or medical items (e.g., allergy, diabetes, or other medication)
- sunscreen (don't forget for your lips too!)
- water that you can carry with you
- sunglasses
- sun hat and warm hat
- gloves or mittens
- comfortable, sturdy shoes (sneakers are ok, hiking shoes are better)
- long pants (consider bringing long underwear bottoms, especially if you get cold easily)
- a wind- and rain-proof jacket (we can get cheap ponchos if needed)
- comfortable top layers (e.g., non-cotton shirt, fleece or wool sweater, another warm layer)
- anything else you need to stay comfortable and have fun!

Please contact catherine_crosier@usgs.gov if you have any concerns or need to borrow any of the items listed above.

THURSDAY SCHEDULE:

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| 8:00am | Meet in the Lobby of the University Park Holiday Inn |
| 8:30am | Depart for the RMNP: http://www.nps.gov/romo/index.html |
| 11:30am | Early lunch at the park (we'll stop somewhere along the way at a nice location when folks get hungry) |
| 5:30 | Arrive back in the lowlands for beer and brats at the Stohlgren's |

Beer & Brats at the Stohlgren's

5:30 pm Thursday night at Tom's house in Windsor. Directions will be provided at the meeting.